inside this issue—interview with Colin Baker!

The Prydonian Renegade

The official newsletter of The Prydonians of Prynceton
Volume 3, number eight November 1986

Club Stuff

December Meeting!

The December Prydonian Assembly will be held on Saturday, December 6, from 1 to 4 pm at the Lawrenceville Library, on Alternate Route 1 South, between Princeton and Trenton, in Mercer County, New Jersey. Food and drink welcome. See you all there!

Philly Satellite Assembly!

On Saturday November 15, we will be holding a Satellite Assembly near Philadelphia in conjunction with the Philadelphia Creation Convention that weekend. The Satellite Assembly will be at the home of Steve Cluck, 400 Upland Road, Elkins Park, PA (215-635-6183). The Assembly will begin at 7 pm. To get to Steve's, take Route 73 (Cottman Avenue). Look for Elkins Park Meats and Sandwich Station. Turn onto Cadwaladar Avenue, turn left at the first street past the stop sign onto Shoemaker Raod, then turn right onto Upland Road. We hope to see as many of you there as possible!

WHYY Fundraiser!

We will be working a fundraiser for WHYY (Channel 12) in Philadelphia on Saturday November 29 from 3 to 6 pm. We need as many volunteers as we can get. If you're interested in helping out, call Duffy McLaughlin at 215-946-5685. Come on, don't you wanna be on TV?

Doctor Who in trouble?

A few vague, unsettling reports have reached Gallifrey East that the new 23rd Season of Doctor Who in Britain is not gaining the kind of ratings that would increase the probability of there being a 24th Season. According to the October issue of A Mouth on Legs, the newsletter of The Jersey Jagaroth, the ratings for the first four weeks of "Trial of a Time Lord" ranged from 4.9 million viewers for week one to 4.6 million for week four. This is a drop of about one million viewers from the ratings for the final weeks of Season 22 in the late winter of 1985. The long hiatus may have caused the show to lose many casual viewers. Also, it is on Saturday evenings against The A Team on ITV, which has a rating about twice that of Doctor Who. Perhaps the next four weeks, written by Philip Martin and featuring the return of Sil (the villain of "Vengeance on Varos") and the departure (and rumored demise) of Nicola Bryant's Peri, will increase the ratings. But it must be wondered if the decision to turn the entire season into a single, fourteen-week-long story has somehow contributed to the show's low viewership. At the end of the first four weeks there were supposedly many loose ends that will only be tied up later in the season. There wasn't the same full resolution that viewers have come to expect every four or six weeks. For casual viewers, who account for a substantial portion of Doctor Who's audience, they may have lost patience and decided not to wait around for the answers to be revealed many weeks hence. What this means for the future of the show can only be speculated upon.

In Britain, rumors are already beginning to spread that Doctor Who may indeed be heading for its final dematerialization. Starburst, a monthly magazine published by Marvel UK, states flatly in its November issue that the show will not be back next year. Against that is the news that studio space has already been allocated for production to begin next March. But then, studio space had been booked for the 23rd Season last year, and production was still cancelled. So who knows? Obviously, there's nothing American fans can do about it but wait and hope. We'll let you know more as we hear the news.

Troughton replaces Pertwee!

For fans wondering why Jon Pertwee failed to show up for the first stops on the so-called "Pertwee tour," the reason is that last month Jon Pertwee was stricken with hepatitis and spent several weeks recuperating at his home in England. He had to miss all the conventions in October. It isn't sure whether he will be able to make the Philadelphia show on November 9. He was replaced by Patrick Troughton. Patrick will be in Philadelphia on the ninth even if Jon is well enough to attend. Possibly two Doctors for the price of one!

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TARDIS 23 Dematerializes!

TARDIS 23 has been cancelled, it was announced this week. Spirit of Light Enterprises, promoters of the legendary annual Chicago superconvention, which had earlier advertised the confirmed appearances of Colin Baker, Patrick Troughton, and Peter Davison for the Thanksgiving weekend, stunned fans everywhere by suddenly announcing that the event had been cancelled. A spokesman for Spirit of Light stated that the cancellation had to do with changes in the BBC's policy for marketing Doctor Who

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Editorials

What a party!

The Jersey Jagaroth's party of October 11, at which they installed their newly-elected Cabinet, was one of the nicest, most joyous celebrations we have ever been to. Eileen Freeman's Gallifreyan robes and collars for herself and her co-rulers, Mark Modig and Mike Fagan, were every bit as gorgeous and spectacular as we had expected they would be. Eileen herself did a splendid job of leading the crowd in filk-singing and even treated us to several solo renditions of her filks. The food, prepared by Eileen and her mother, was lavishly provided. Everything about the whole event was absolutely perfect, and we would just like to mention all of this for the record and also to thank Eileen and Mrs. Freeman for their generosity and hospitality. Let's have more parties as good as that one!

Thanks, Colin!

As a letter on this page points out, we fans may perhaps have come to take Colin Baker for granted. Not as the Doctor, but rather as one of the best, most outgoing, hardest-working convention guests ever seen on these shores. As Page Lewis mentions, at the Philadelphia show Colin Baker not only came out during intermission, but later, after the official autograph line had been shut down (the Hotel needed the ballroom back), Colin came out and continued signing in the lobby until every fan present had gotten his autograph. Such willingness to put himself out for the fans, to go beyond what his contract called for, sets Colin far above any and all other guests, and shows that not only is he an exceptional Doctor, he's also one hell of a person. Thanks, Colin!

TARDIS Talk!

This month we start a new section called "TARDIS Talk." This is a "members' page," a place where we can fun small news items that are of importance or interest but which don't belong on the front page, and also a place where you can place notices for any legitimate purpose. Wanna get in touch with another member? Want to find out if there's a person in your area who does macrame? Wish someone a happy birthday? Wish yourself a happy birthday? Sell something? Buy something? It doesn't have to be related to Doctor Who or even to the club, folks. Whatever you want to run. Just send it in (legibly, please) to the Editor, care of Gallifrey East, no later than the last Saturday of the month. 100 words or less, please. We'd like to thank UNYT, who came up with this idea for their newsletter. Imitation is the sincerest form, etc.

Let the Clubs begin!

We are inaugurating this month a new series in which fans who run DW clubs in other parts of the country will report on their agglomerations. We'd like to thank Terri Shaw and Patti Coats of the Winds of Time, the pride of Nashville, TN, for writing the deranged and dangerous drivel that appears on page seven.

The Prydonian Renegade is published monthly by The Prydonians of Prynceton, inc., a Doctor Who Fan Club. Address: Gallifrey East, 359 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ, 08540. Telephone: 609-921-8148. Doctor Who is ©1986 BBC. This newsletter is intended solely to inform and entertain the club's members and not to infringe upon anyone's lawful copyright. Unsigned articles may be reprinted by other not-for-profit clubs. Signed articles may only be reprinted with the written permission of the editor of The Renegade. Membership in The Prydonians is $6 annually for individuals, $8 for households. The Prydonians of Prynceton are a charter chapter of the Doctor Who Fan Club of America (DWFCA) and are a member of the North East Matrix and the APC Net. All these *Renegades* look the same to me.

Letters to *The Renegade*

Dear Prydonians:

Hi! I have enjoyed my first *Prydonian Renegade*, and felt I must reply to the column "Give Blame Where it's Due," published in the October issue.

Through all the criticism about the Baker-Baker show in Philadelphia last month, no one has said THANK YOU to Colin Baker. I felt that it's about time that someone did. I don't know if he gets *The Renegade*, but I would like to publicly THANK Colin for all he did at the convention.

He didn't have to stay late and sign autographs, but chose to do so for the fans. It's not often an actor get thanks, but I felt it was time.

On our way out of the auditorium, I noticed Colin walking behind me. I said to him, "Thank you for staying." His reply to me was "Thank you, dear." He didn't have to say anything, but made it a point to thank ME!

I have a lot of respect for the kind person Colin is and wanted to put it in writing. I very much look forward to seeing his episodes.

Page E. Lewis

What a wonderful letter! You're absolutely right, Page. Colin has always been an excellent convention guest; fans have never felt anything other than that he genuinely delights in meeting us and loves to please us. Colin doesn't regularly receive The Renegade, but we'll make sure he receives a copy of your letter. Also, note our public thanks to him in an editorial this month. Again, thank you, Page, for your marvelous letter.

Dear Prydonians:

The following is an open letter to all Whovians. On Sunday, September 28, at the Baker–Baker show in Brooklyn, something happened that should never have occurred.

It was the last day of the tour and it was a rousing success. From beginning to end,

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TARDIS Talk

Welcome to TARDIS Talk!

This is the first appearance of TARDIS Talk, gang. This is your page. Use it to contact other members, to make announcements (of anything, Who-related or not), to find, sell, or buy something, for anything at all. We'll also use it for short news announcements that don't fit on the front page.

We have a South Jersey Coordinator!

We have a new coordinator for members and activities in southern Jersey. Linda Anne Lineaweaver, who joined the club in August, has taken on the task of facilitating communications amongst our many members in the southern half of the Garden State. She will also be hosting a Satellite Assembly down there sometime soon. Linda lives at 4D8 Arbor Green, Beverly, NJ (near Burlington). Her phone number is 609-877-3464. She will need help to do her job properly. Anyone who wants to help her out, especially with making phone calls, should give her a ring. We'd like to thank Linda Anne for taking on this task.

Creation Conventions!

Creation will be having two shows in November, one in Philadelphia and one in Manhattan. On November 15–16, Louise Jameson ("Leela") will be at the Holiday Inn on Market Street in Philadelphia. Then on November 28–30, John Leeson (the voice of "K9") will be at the Omni Park Central Hotel, 56th Street at 7th Avenue in Manhattan. We will have a dealer table at both shows.

Talk to the TARDIS

Just a reminder about the club computer bulletin board, message section 13 on the TARDIS BBS of East Windsor, NJ. 24 hours a day, 300–1200–2400 baud. Leave an e-mail message for "The Castellan" with your real name and account number.

Christmas Party!

The Prydonian Christmas Party will be held on Saturday December 20 from 7:30 pm to whenever at the home of Kim and Greg Neighbor, 717 Trumbull Avenue, Lawrenceville, NJ (609-396-2858). We will have full directions in the December Renegade. Food and drink will be needed, and also a cleanup crew. The theme of the party will be a Members' Talent Show! Can you sing and dance? Or tell jokes? Even if you can't, sign up for the Talent Show anyhow! We're not laughing with you, we're laughing at you!

Raffles Continue!

The raffle for the Harlan Ellison books, to benefit Prydonian Geo. Alec Ellison, who was burned out in a house fire, continues. The hardcover signed first editions, donated by Harlan, are Alone Against Tomorrow and Approaching Oblivion. Tickets are $1. The drawing will be at the December 6 Prydonian Assembly. All proceeds will go to Geo. Send your checks to PO Box 1311, Princeton, NJ, 08540.

Come to *Metebelis 4!*

Yes, once again, we're foolishly going to try to solicit contributions for a club fanzine, to be called *Metebelis 4*. Stories, articles, poetry, essays, artwork, jokes—anything you want to submit will be considered and cheerfully edited beyond all recognition. Not just Doctor Who stuff, either folks—Blake's 7, science fiction, anything at all. No real length limit, either. Please type all submissions and write your name and phone number on all pages. Don't send your only copy, either. As soon as we get enough stuff, we'll print something. This will not be a free publication, unfortunately, but we will charge only enough to cover the costs of printing it. Send all contributions to the editor of *The Renegade*.

Whoski needs help!

Folks, we're really at the crunch now. If Whoski deposits don't pick up real soon, we will have to cancel the event. Please please please send in your deposits as soon as possible to Po Box 1311, Princeton, NJ, 08540. Don't miss this unique event!

EOPLE POLL/By STEVEN ZIMISH

Is changing jobs a traumatic experience?

CLAUDIA RUIZ
Holland, Pa.
I think so, because you have to adapt to new situations.

KATHY MANNING
Australia
No. Changing jobs is a lot like acting. Each time it's a new challenge.

from *The Trenton Times*, week of October 6 (submitted by Tiki Heil)

an interview with Colin Baker!

(This interview was provided by the APC Net. In it, Colin talks about the recently completed 23rd Season, which is now showing in England. While he doesn't reveal anything more about the plot of "Trial of a Time Lord," the umbrella title for the fourteen-week season, than we did last month, he does mention various details about costuming and other little bits and pieces. Those of you who truly wish to know nothing about the new shows before they are televised here in the States (perhaps as early as next January on New Jersey Network) might consider skipping parts of this interview. Anyhow, we thank the APC net for sharing it with us.)

"The one thing that everyone seems to want to know is 'What's going on back in England?' So I'll tell you. We've just finished making season 23—at last. The word is—from those who must be obeyed—Michael Grade—that he's seen episode one at least and he approved of it! He thought it was pretty damned good. And then he was asked by the gentlemen of the press—if there is such a thing in England—'What was likely to be the end result of the season?' and he said that episode one was excellent and if it maintains that standard I'm sure it will be back. So obviously he's waiting to see the rest. But I can tell you it only gets better!

"It's been a very exciting season. A lot of rumors have been going round about it. Rumor one: Gallifrey is destroyed. I'd like to dispell that rumor. The rumor is that Gallifrey is destroyed at the end of episode 14. I'ts not. At the beginning of episode one it's destroyed. Opening shot—destroy Gallifrey. Get rid of that pile of old junk. Episode two—we destroy it again—travel back in time and destroy it before we destroy it. No, that's not true. We don't even go to Gallifrey.

"The whole season is one story called 'Trial of a Time Lord.' The Doc's on trial for—guess what—meddling!! And there are three stories within that formula. The first one comes from the Sixth Doctor's past, another one comes from the current period—contemporary with the trial—the third story is from way in the sixth Doctor's future. So the new companion, Melanie, is never introduced, she's just kind of there, they've known each other for a long time. And in the second story we see the departure of Perpugilliam Brown. If Peri has to go, I do have to say that I can think of nobody better to take over than Bonnie (Langford). She plays Melanie Bush. About Peri leaving—I'll tell you one thing—you think Adric went bad?

"Melanie looks exactly like Bonnie Langford. She has red hair, petite, an enormous amount of energy, always on the go. So when we arrive, unlike Peri who says 'Doctor, I don't want to go out there, it might be dangerous,' Melanie says 'Hey! Let's go out there and look!!!' She's kind of up and at 'em. Also she's a health and fitness freak and for some reason seems to think that I need her attention. Puts me on a diet.

"For those of you who are DW trivia experts: in the new season—you know I wear cat pins on my lapel? I had a friend make some cutouts of my cats which we've got around the house to confuse them. I had little versions made of those which I wear on my lapel. The Doctor actually says his name. The costume remains essentially the same—but we have changed the waistcoat and bow tie for each story because it could get a bit confusing this season. There's lots of flashbacks, flashforwards—so you know which time scale we're in we've identified it with the costume. There's a cute little waistcoat with teddy bear buttons on it.

"The TARDIS interior appears only for one scene in the whole of the 14 episodes. That's because of the trial. You don't normally have jump cuts in "Doctor Who." Normally if the Doctor says 'Let's go down to San Antonio,' you can't go right down there, you have to have a scene in between before you see them arrive. Well, by having the trial, you can cut between scenes. So it means that the TARDIS is unnecessary because the Doctor's already there.

"Will the Doctor have a beard? I think it's quite good—kind of Gallifrey Vice. It gives away something about the color of my hair, though. People have asked me why I've grown a beard. It's a kind of superstition really. Early on in my career—about 50 years ago—I had to stick on a beard every night for a play for about three months. I hated sticking the darn thing on so much—the spirit gum hurts your skin—it's ghastly. I vowed that I would never do it again. So many times during the last 20 odd years I've grown beards so that if the job comes along that requires a beard, I've got one—and it only takes me a few minutes to shave it off. I asked John Nathan-Turner, he said 'well that's somebody else's decision, not mine.' Because he does intend to move on. He feels he's had enough of "Doctor Who." I'm sure the BBC will make it impossible for him to leave, so he'll stay, which suits me down to the ground because I feel he's a darn good producer. But he said 'IF I happen to be doing the program, I don't thing I'd want the Doctor to have a beard.' But you could always have a scene with him with a beard and then have Melanie make him shave it off—that'd be fun.

"When you see the first ten seconds of Episode One, you'll think—'They've blown the budget already!' What pleased me about this new season—apart from the fact it's been splendidly written, with marvelous actors, and actually comes together extremely well—is the fact that the technicians, who are really a cynical bunch of people, were saying 'I think it was so and so,' because it's a sort of who-done-it. They were really involved in the story. I think it's the most exciting "Doctor Who" we've done for a long time, because if you can please those guys, you can please anyone. I hope you'll agree when you see it. The last two episodes were written—magnificently—by Pip and

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Colin Baker interview

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Jane Baker on very short notice after Eric (Saward) left three weeks before production was to start.

[What about renewal?] "Well, if you'd asked me that question two years ago, I'd have said—'It's all right, it's been renewed.' But any time between renewal and actuality it can be canceled—as we proved two years ago, when my contract was renewed in October but the show was canceled in February. So the end of October they can take up my option or not—I suspect they will. But I wouldn't allow that to lull me into a false sense of security. I believe as far as one can believe that it will start again. Filming should start in the March–April time frame."

Dennis Spooner dies

Dennis Spooner, Doctor Who's second Script Editor and author of such William Hartnell stories as "The Romans" and "The Reign of Terror," died of a heart attack at his home outside of London on Saturday September 20. He was 53.

Spooner was Script Editor for most of Doctor Who's second season. In addition to his own scripts, he assisted on the writing of several episodes of the twelve-part "The Dalek Master Plan.

Spooner also worked on such adventure shows as "The Avengers," "Department S," and "The Champions." Like his friend and fellow-DW writer Terry Nation Spooner began his career as a stand-up comic and gagwriter.

In a 1979 interview Spooner gave his views on the first five Doctors (Peter Davison had been cast but not yet seen as the Doctor) "I think it's a mistake not having the Doctor be someone like William Hartnell. An old man has to be clever. My worry about them getting Peter Davison is that he could turn it into 'Starsky and Hutch.'"

Make your own scarf!

The perfect Christmas gift for the Whovian in your life!

[This pattern was supplied by Lou Hunnebeck, a Prydonian from New York City, who deciphered it by watching numerous Tom Baker episodes over and over again. We'd like to thank Lou for sharing it with us. The printing of this pattern is not intended to infringe upon anyone's legitimate copyright.]

Requirements: #9 knitting needles.

Wool: 4 oz purple, 8 oz camel, 4 oz bronze, 4 oz mustard, 6 oz rust, 4 oz grey, 6 oz greenish brown (khaki).

Cast on 60 stitches. In plain knitting, always slip the first stitch, knit in the following order:

8 purple rows, 52 camel, 16 bronze, 10 mustard, 22 rust, 8 purple, 20 green, 8 mustard, 28 camel, 14 rust, 8 bronze, 10 purple, 42 green, 8 mustard, 16 grey, 8 rust, 54 camel, 10 purple, 12 green, 6 grey, 8 mustard, 18 rust, 8 purple, 38 bronze, 10 camel, 8 grey, 40 rust, 14 mustard, 20 green, 8 purple, 42 camel, 12 bronze, 20 grey, 8 rust, 12 purple, 6 camel, 14 mustard, 54 green, 16 rust, 12 grey, 8 mustard, 20 bronze, 10 purple, 12 camel, 32 grey, 10 rust, 16 mustard.

Cast off

Tassels are made from 1' lengths of wool with seven tassels on each end, each tassel combining all seven colours.

Note: some of the colours can be very difficult to find. Take a picture of the scarf with you to get the general shades and then be sure to make certain the different wools look right together before you start knitting.

Do you suffer from convention tummy, autograph-line feet, video room eyestrain, filksing sore throat?

well, suffer no more!

Announcing a new service for all fans:

Doctor Who Cares!

health care for fans

six Doctors—no waiting!

our special regeneration service will leave you thinking you're a new person!

new in the TARDIS library

Galaxy Four by William Emms

There has, for quite some time, been an argument about whether or not novelisations should be true to a story or possibly embellish and improve. "Galaxy Four" is one book which speaks volumes for the latter argument.

This is one of the missing Hartnell episodes, so we have only reports and reviews from people who have seen this story-and they weren't favorable at all. Unfortunately, the book seems to be taken directly from the script as the story was dull and plodding. The twin plotlines- a war between two different species and the immenent distruction of a planet--would have made a fascinating story. Unfortunately, the author did not take the initiabive and imbellish these, making the story more interesting and suspenseful. After all,you can only take so much of the Doctor walking between TARDIS and various ships

However, I did like the Chumblies.

Turlough and the Earthlink Dilemma by Tony Atwood

Target has come up with an exciting new idea in Doctor Who books--stories dealing with former companions after they sever ties with the Doctor. The first book in this series is "Turlough and the Earthlink Dilemma."

This story, set on Trion after Turlough leaves Sarn with his brother and returns to this home planet a hero, disregards most, if not all, of Turlough's history as set down in Planet of Fire. In fact, in this story, Turlough doesn't even have a brother.

Turlough uses his knowledge of timetravel, picked up during his travels with the Doctor, to invent a time machine, travels through time with his girlfriend, enters alternate universes, meets a Timelord, and ultimately confuses the reader totally.

There are several other books in this series planned. The next, "Harry Sullivan's War," is reported to be excellent and exciting.

P.S. If you do read the book, try spelling some of the names backward. It could prove very enlightening.

Timelash by Glen McCoy

"Timelash" was considered one of the worst stories of the Twenty-second Season by many who viewed it. Unfortunately, the book could probably be considered just as bad. This is another excellent example of a story where the author should have paid some more attention to filling in gaps as well as following the storyline.

Unfortunately, first the author filled in gaps and then made others where there weren't any to begin with. He did not follow through on many basic scenes and consequently left us up in the air in such instances as to how Peri escapes the guardoliers and gets out into the caves, how the guardoliers know where to find the rebel base, and so on. However, in a somewhat thorough style the author does inform us of just what the Doctor and Jo were doing on Karfel and why he is held in such high regard by the people.

Although this was probably the worst show of the season, it had some of the funniest lines—too bad the author left every one out.

I found the background information useful in answering many of my questions concerning the original story but the book itself, to someone who has not seen the story, is confusing at best.

The King's Demons by Terence Dudley

The broadcast episode was a light quick look at English life and history under King John several months before Magna Carta. In his novelisation Terence Dudley fills in the small details and background information which the two-part screenplay omitted.

Unfortunately, to do this, the characterisation suffers. Tegan comes across as nothing more than a whining, complaining, pest; Turlough's selfishness is extreme even for him; and the Doctor seems to be little more than a walking encyclopedia. Even the fun bit at the end of the show, where Turlough, not knowing who the Master is, tells him off, is missing.

The book is a good story and well written, apart from the above flaws, and is full of historical facts. It's one of the better Doctor Who historicals.

Harry Sullivan's War by Ian Marter

This is the second in the new series called "The Companions of Doctor Who." It is a distinct improvement over its predecessor, "Turlough and the Earthlink Dilemma," reviewed above.

The book follows the post-UNIT career of our favourite naval warrior, Harry Sullivan. His dealings with germ warfare, ecologists, and traitors makes for a very entertaining yarn.

This is not to say the book is a masterpiece, for it's not. The flaws are minimal, however, and easily overlooked. It's nice to see the Doctor put in proper context, as he is here. Sarah Jane Smith and Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart also put in appearances as very real extensions of their characters.

If you liked Harry Sullivan, you'll like this book.

—Cathy Boudreau

Doctor Who—The Early Years by Jeremy Bentham

This large hardcover book was published by WH Allen earlier this summer. Those of you who are thinking it may be in the same category as Peter Haining's two large hardcovers "Doctor Who—A Celebration" and "Doctor Who—The Key to Time" may be slightly disappointed, but real fans of Doctor Who should not be. The book is a fascinating look at the pre-history of Doctor Who and also at certain important aspects of its first few seasons. Bentham explores the coming of science fiction to British TV, the shows such as "Pathfinders in Space," "Pathfinders to Mars,"

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The Winds of Time—Risque Business

Second Draft

[Last month, a member suggested we run lengthy profiles on other DW clubs in the country. To start this feature, we asked the folks who run the Nashville-based Winds of Time to report on their vile disgusting conspiracy, which they were only too happy to do...]

You're probably wondering about that "second draft" subhead. Well, we were warned to keep this clean because your format is PG, but our "first draft" didn't make it past the censor's garbage receptacle. Must have been the jokes. Anywho, if at first you don't succeed...

So ya'll want to know what fandom is like south of the Mason-Dixon line? Well, the Winds of Time is pretty much like the folks and music down here. It's "laid back." That means we take things easy, everyone does their own thing, and we all have a real good time.

We throw our time and energy into writing and gathering information. Through our club newsletter "Cosmic Yo-Yo" (you should see the masthead!) we provide up-to-date news on all sorts of things. We also toss in a goodly portion of humour and artwork. Our fanzine "Timewalker" is now issued bi-annually. If it gets any larger, it may have to go quarterly.

Now this is wwhere we explain the "Risque Business." All members must be consenting adults, 18 or older. You see, er...uh...well, we are R or X or RX depending on how you look at it. Our gonzo, nothing is sacred approach caters to a broad range of tastes, or lack thereof. Every issue of "Cosmic Yo-Yo" has K9's Sicke Jokes (groan!), crzy happenings at TV station PERN as they try to rehabilitate the Pepperpots (cousins of the Daleks), and the latest insanity from the Golden Apple Cabal, our sister club, as they infiltrate and stage a palace coup—Hail Eris! The latest "Timewalker" has interviews with Anthony Ainley and Tom Baker, short stories (including two by your beloved Castellan), vampire poetry, filks (we can't print the titles!), art, and the exclusive series of Whovent '86 Nashville reviews revealing what Doctors do in Music City.

"Timewalker is available for $5 or free with issue in the Winds of Time. For a sample issue of "Cosmis Yo-Yo" send a LSASA with two 22-cent stamps. Dues are $8 per year. PO Box 22307, Nashville, TN, 37202.

New in the TARDIS Library

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and "Pathfinders to Venus" that foreshadowed Doctor Who, and the real story behind Sydney Newman and Donald Wilson's creation of our favourite Time Lord and his programme. Of particular interest is the story of how Verity Lambert (the first producer) and David Whitaker (the first script editor) turned the show into precisely the sort of programme that Newman and Wilson did not want. Newman genuinely wanted it to be uplifting and educational for the kiddies. But Lambert, almost a true child of the TV generation, was much more interested in telling fun stories than in inculcating useful British values in her audience. This clash came to a head when Whitaker rejected one script for a science fiction show and replaced it with Terry Nation's "The Daleks." Newman and Wilson were furious. They almost ordered the show's cancellation as soon as they saw the first Dalek. But the Dalek stories were so popular that they had no choice.

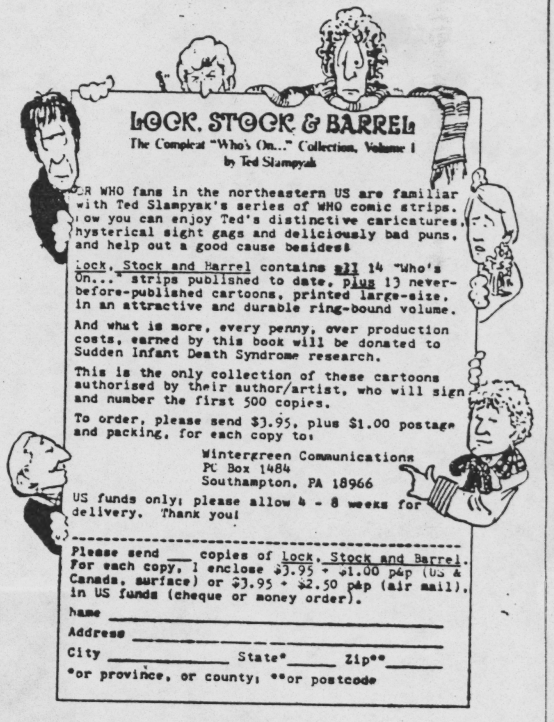
The book is not perfect. As an organising hook, Bentham concentrates for detail on the stories designed by Raymond Cusick, a BBC staff designer who created the physical look of the Daleks. While Cusick's work is interesting, looking solely at it inevitably means that other aspects of the show must be ignored. Also, the book only covers the Hartnell years. However, a second volume is supposedly in the works.

The most relevant part of the book for current fans is Bentham's account of the row Lambert had with the BBC Children's Department (which resented Doctor Who's success, as it was being made by the Drama Department) over a scene in which Susan menaced Ian and Barbara with a pair of scissors. Lambert had to apologise to the Children's Department over that. "That was the last of the major rows which seemed to haunt the Production Office throughout its formative first year, but it was a sad indictment that Doctor Who never won full respectability as a serious drama programme within the Corporation. For most of its life, and certainly for its early years, it was either too outspoken to be a children's show, but not high-brow enough to be considered as adult entertainment. Success was found in a limbo area mid-way between BBC dubiousness and general public enthusiasm." Bentham quotes Lambert: "'I was mainly concerned with making something that children could enjoy and not feel that this was a special programme for them, avoiding all the twee and awful things people normally put into children's programmes. I wanted them to have a programme they could say they watched simply because they liked and enjoyed it."

If you take out the word "children" from the above quote, it could apply to all fans today, as Doctor Who is no longer, and has not been for some time, a children's show. Indeed, Bentham shows that it never really was. The BBC, it would seem, has never really known just what sort of show it has had on its hands. Plus ça change...

—Tom Beck

This is a real ad!



This is a real ad!

More Letters

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both Tom and Colin were in rare form—signing autographs, telling stories, and generally giving the fans their all.

Afterward, as some of us were getting ready to go out to dinner, some fans announced that they had seen Tom Baker heading into the bar across the street. Someone decided to go there to check out its prices and to see if Tom Baker indeed was in there—he was.

The next 20 minutes were utter disaster. Part of the group decided they wanted to see why Tom Baker was in the bar; other, myself included, wanted to allow him to have his beer in peace. However, those who went into the bar, many under legal drinking age, persisted. They wanted to help him get a cab. He was polite, but both he and his companion were upset.

After he went back into the bar, having failed to get a cab, he was followed in by several fans, one of whom had a camera ready. They were out of the bar within two minutes, visibly upset.

Tom Baker had gone into the bar to relax after a difficult day and was not given the opportunity to do so. He was hounded by childishly enthusiastic fans who apparently did not realize what they were doing. Those of us who tried to talk to them were ignored.

The celebrities are not ours, they do not owe all their time to us. If you see a celebrity alone, DO NOT go up to him or her en masse. If a celebrity has been entertaining you all day, signing hundreds of autographs, DO NOT bother them when they are relaxing! Some of the celebrities are afraid of crowds. You are infringing on their personal freedom.

Please think twice before you act.

Cathy Boudreau

Right you are, Cathy. If the star is in the hotel bar, then it's not too unforgiveable to approach and ASK (not assume!) if it's okay to stop and talk. But if the star is anywhere else, especially AFTER show hours, then he or she should be left strictly alone. One has to wonder if Tom Baker will even come back to the States after what happened to him on that last Sunday.

TARDIS 23 Dematerializes

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in the United States. He refused to be more specific. Another spokesperson recommended that fans be on the alert for an announcement in a month or so, which might mean that the convention may be rescheduled, although no promises were given. The Renegade will, of course, print any news as soon as it's announced.

Jon Pertwee Ill

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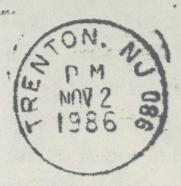
Tickets are available from Ticketron for the Philadelphia show, which will be held at the Civic Center Hilton Hotel. Also attending will be Star Trek's James Doohan, Blake's 7's Paul Darrow, and British actress Caroline Munro.

The Prydonians of Prynceton
Gallifrey East
359 Nassau Street
Princeton, NJ 08540



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